Huntingdon and Godmanchester
Borough Council

# ANNUAL REPORT

of

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

# PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for

# 1970

R. P. Saunders & Co., Printers, Huntingdon

# HUNTINGDON AND GODMANCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL

## 1970

**Mayor :**

Councillor W. A. WOLFF

**Deputy Mayor :**

Councillor Mrs. J. McCARTNEY

**Chairman Public Health Committee :**

Ald. C. H. SUMMERS

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

**Medical Officer of Health :**

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., D.P.H.

**Public Health Inspectors :**

C. W. PARCELL, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert.I.Hsg.

M. J. FIRMEDOW, M.A.P.H.I.

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# ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

## for the

## BOROUGH of HUNTINGDON and GODMANCHESTER

## for the year ended 31st December, 1970

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1970.

**Vital Statistics**

*Population.* There was virtually very little change in the size of the population this year compared with 1969, only 80 having been added to the total figure which now stands at 15,730.

*Birth Rate.* 319 live births were credited to the Borough during the year giving a local adjusted birth rate of 15.8 compared with 17.2 in 1969. This downward trend is in line with the national average which has been steadily declining during the last five or six years.

*Still Births.* A pleasing feature to note this year is that there was only one still-birth recorded as compared with 3 in 1969, and that there were 6 fewer illegitimate births this year compared with last.

*Death Rate.* There were 153 residents of the Borough who died during the year — 20 fewer than last year — giving a local adjusted death rate of 10.8 per 1,000 population. This figure compares favourably with the national average of 11.7.

16% of deaths were due to malignant disease and 47% to disorders of the cardio-vascular system.

*Infant Mortality.* As in 1969, 5 infants died during the year before reaching the age of 12 months, giving an infant mortality rate of 16 per 1,000 live births — a figure which is still somewhat below the national average of 18.

*Infectious Disease.* The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was much reduced this year as compared with 1969, and less than 100 notifications were received during the 12 months. 67 of these were in respect of measles and 19 were cases of infective jaundice.

**Social Conditions**

*Hospital Facilities.* Negotiations are still going on between the various Local Authorities concerned and the Regional Hospital Board as to the future programme for the provision of a new hospital in Huntingdon. It is hoped that more definite confirmation will be forthcoming at a fairly early date.

*Housing.* The increased Improvement Grants which were introduced in 1969 has encouraged owner occupiers to improve their own property and the number of enquiries and applications received has greatly increased.

With the introduction of the 1969 Housing Act a scheme for the improvement of an area was prepared and the initial inspections and recommendations to the Council were made. It is hoped that early in 1971 the Council will formally declare its first Improvement Area.

*Slum Clearance.* The number of persons rehoused from slum clearance property has decreased as the Council have completed their 5 year programme of Slum Clearance.

The Council are now continuing with its 4 year plan of Slum Clearance and improvements and some additional local housing will be required to cope with this programme.

*Town Expansion.* The rate of growth continues to be slow and the Council again have taken advantage of this by providing some extra facilities for the existing population.

*Food Hygiene.* The food premises within the Borough continue to be visited frequently and every co-operation is given by small shopkeepers and supermarkets to the department, and a high standard has been maintained during this year.

The three times weekly refuse collection from food premises continues and has alleviated most of the problems that existed before this was commenced.

In conclusion I should like to thank Mr. Parcell, Mr. Firmedow and all members of the Department's staff for the support they have given me and for all the work they have done throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1970

| | |
|---|---|
| Area ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 7,107 acres |
| Number of inhabited houses, at 31.3.70 ... ... | 5,152 |
| Rateable value of the district, at 31.3.70 ... ... | £803,019 |
| Value of penny rate, at 31.3.70 ... ... est. | £3,162 |
| Estimated population (mid 1969) ... ... ... | 15,650 |
| Estimated population (mid 1970) ... ... ... | 15,730 |

| **Live Births** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate ... ... | 147 | 147 | 294 |
| Illegitimate ... ... | 17 | 8 | 25 |
| Totals ... | 164 | 155 | 319 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ... | 20.3 |
| Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (.78) ... | 15.8 |
| Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) | 16.0 |

| **Still Births** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate ... ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Illegitimate ... ... | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | — | 1 | 1 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births ... ... | 3 |
| Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births (England and Wales) | 13 |

| **Deaths** | 74 | 79 | 153 |
|---|---|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ... | 9.7 |
| Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.11) ... | 10.8 |
| Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales) | 11.7 |

**Infant Mortality** — Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate ... ... | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Illegitimate ... ... | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 3 | 2 | 5 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Infant Mortality rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live and still births) ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Infant Mortality rate (England and Wales) ... ... | 18 |

**Table classifying deaths under age groups**

| Age | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Under 4 weeks ... ... ... ... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 weeks and under 1 year ... ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 1 and under 5 years ... ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| 5 and under 15 years ... ... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 15 and under 25 years ... ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 25 and under 35 years ... ... | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 35 and under 45 years ... ... | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 45 and under 55 years ... ... | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| 55 and under 65 years ... ... | 14 | 6 | 20 |
| 65 and under 75 years ... ... | 13 | 10 | 23 |
| 75 years and over ... ... | 25 | 55 | 80 |
| Totals ... | 74 | 79 | 153 |

The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the Borough over the past five years :—

| | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Population** ... ... | 13,830 | 14,760 | 15,220 | 15,650 | 15,730 |
| **Live Births** | | | | | |
| Total Live Births ... | 361 | 374 | 330 | 344 | 319 |
| Crude Birth Rate ... | 26.1 | 25.3 | 21.7 | 22.0 | 20.3 |
| Area Comparability Factor | .79 | .78 | .78 | .78 | .78 |
| Corrected Birth Rate... | 20.6 | 19.8 | 16.9 | 17.2 | 15.8 |
| Birth Rate (England and Wales) ... ... | 17.7 | 17.2 | 16.9 | 16.3 | 16.0 |
| **Deaths** | | | | | |
| Total Deaths ... ... | 163 | 128 | 153 | 173 | 153 |
| Crude Death Rate ... | 11.8 | 8.7 | 10.1 | 11.1 | 9.7 |
| Area Comparability Factor | 1.03 | 1.04 | .92 | 1.04 | 1.11 |
| Corrected Death Rate | 12.1 | 9.0 | 9.3 | 11.5 | 10.8 |
| Death Rate (England and Wales) ... ... | 11.7 | 11.2 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 11.7 |

**Notifications of Infectious Disease during 1970**

| | Total cases notified |
|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Whooping Cough ... ... ... | — |
| Diphtheria ... ... ... ... | — |
| Measles ... ... ... ... ... | 67 |
| Typhoid Fever ... ... ... ... | — |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... ... ... | 2 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... ... ... | — |
| Infective Jaundice ... ... ... | 19 |
| Food Poisoning ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Dysentery ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Enteritis ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| Tuberculosis ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Acute Meningitis ... ... ... | — |
| Total | 97 |

## CAUSES OF DEATH
(Registrar General's List)

| List No. | Causes | Male | Female |
|---|---|---|---|
| B11 | Meningococcal Infection ... ... | 1 | — |
| B18 | Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases | 1 | — |
| B19(1) | Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. | 1 | — |
| B19(2) | Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus | 1 | 1 |
| B19(3) | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... | 3 | 2 |
| B19(4) | Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ... | 1 | 5 |
| B19(6) | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus | 4 | 1 |
| B19(7) | Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... | — | 1 |
| B19(8) | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... | — | 2 |
| B19(10) | Leukaemia ... ... ... ... | — | 1 |
| B19(11) | Other Malignant Neoplasms ... | 2 | 1 |
| B21 | Diabetes Mellitus ... ... ... | 1 | 1 |
| B46(1) | Other Endocrine etc., Diseases ... | — | 1 |
| B24 | Meningitis ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| B46(5) | Other Diseases of Nervous System | 1 | 1 |
| B26 | Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease | — | 2 |
| B27 | Hypertensive Disease ... ... | — | 1 |
| B28 | Ischaemic Heart Disease ... ... | 16 | 13 |
| B29 | Other Forms of Heart Disease ... | 2 | 6 |
| B30 | Cerebrovascular Disease ... ... | 9 | 16 |
| B46(6) | Other Disease of Circulatory System | 4 | 3 |
| B31 | Influenza ... ... ... ... | — | 2 |
| B32 | Pneumonia ... ... ... ... | 6 | 8 |
| B33(1) | Bronchitis and Emphysema ... | 4 | — |
| B35 | Appendicitis ... ... ... | — | 1 |

| List No. | Causes | Male | Female |
|---|---|---|---|
| B36 | Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia | 1 | — |
| B46(8) | Other Diseases of Digestive System | — | 1 |
| B46(9) | Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System | — | 1 |
| B42 | Congenital Anomalies ... ... | 2 | 1 |
| B43 | Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. | — | 1 |
| B44 | Other causes of Perinatal Mortality | — | 1 |
| B45 | Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions | — | 2 |
| BE47 | Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ... | 10 | 1 |
| BE48 | All Other Accidents ... ... | 2 | 2 |
| | Total all Causes ... | 74 | 79 |

## TUBERCULOSIS

Total number of persons on Register at 31st December, 1970—53

Pulmonary — 49 Non-pulmonary — 4

| Age Period | New Cases—Diagnosed Respiratory | | New Cases—Diagnosed Non-Res. | | New Cases—Transfers Respiratory | | New Cases—Transfers Non-Res | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| 0 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 20 ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 45 ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55 ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65 and upwards ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

## FOR THE AREA

### (a) Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratory facilities have been available to the Authority and to General Practitioners in the area : —

Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge (Tel : Cambridge 55526).

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tennyson Road, Cambridge (Tel : Cambridge 2097).

### (b) Ambulance Service

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service have been available on doctor's orders. (Tel : Huntingdon 3348)

### (c) Home Nursing

Nurse/Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out home nursing and attended maternity cases within the Borough.

### (d) Clinic and Treatment Centres

(i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council : —

| Clinic | Patients seen | When held | Where held |
|---|---|---|---|
| Infant Welfare | Children (0—5 years) | Every Tuesday and Thursday 2—4 p.m. | ditto |
| | | 2nd & 4th Wednesday in month 2—4 p.m. | Health Clinic, St. Annes Lane, Godmanchester |
| Dental | Pre-school and Schoolchildren, | By appointment. | Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon. |
| | Pre-natal and Nursing mothers | By appointment. | |

(ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board : —

| Clinic | Patients seen | When held | Where held |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chest | All ages | Every Thursday 9.30—12.30 p m. 2—3 p.m. | County H'pital, Huntingdon. |
| Venereal Disease | All cases | Tuesday from 2 p.m.—6 p.m. Thursday from 2 p.m.—6 p.m. | Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge. |
| | Males | Monday from 5 p.m. Wed. from 5.30 p.m. | Clinic 5, Outpatients Department, Peterborough Memorial Hospital, Peterborough. |
| | Females | Tuesday from 10.30 a.m. Thursday from 4.30 p.m. | |

(iii) The following services are provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service : —

| Clinic | Patients seen | When held | Where held |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ophthalmic | Pre-school and Schoolchildren | By appointment. | Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon. |

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients Clinics are held at the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) **Hospital Services**

**Fever.** Cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to isolation hospital at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

**General Hospital Services** are provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.

**Maternity Cases** are admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Unit, Huntingdon, or Mill Road Maternity Hospital, Cambridge.

(f) **Family Planning Clinics**

**Huntingdon** Held at Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon. Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.
(To make an appointment call at Clinic or telephone Huntingdon 3398 after 7 p.m. Wednesday evenings ONLY).

**St. Ives** Held at the Child Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives. Every Monday 9.30 — 11 a.m.
(To make an appointment call at Clinic or telephone St. Ives 2622 during sessions ONLY).

**St. Neots** Held at Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St. Neots. Tuesday evenings 7 — 9 p.m.
1st and 3rd Thursday mornings 9.30 — 11.30 a.m. (To make an appointment telephone St. Neots 2261 during session times ONLY).

**Housing**

*General*

The total number of Council dwellings at 31st December, 1970 was 2,695 representing 52.3% of the habitable dwellings in the Borough. A further 46 dwellings were completed under the Town Expansion Scheme bringing the total to 1,802 including 19 Maisonettes above shop property.

The Cromwell Square Warden Service flatlets and a small block of 6 flats in Primrose Lane were occupied during the year.

The proposed Wardens Service Scheme at Godmanchester has met with continued planning delays owing to the proximity of the site to the proposed by-pass. A site for a further Warden's Service block within the Town Expansion area has been approved in principle.

SUMMARY OF REHOUSING AND ALLIED MATTERS
for the 12 months ending 31st December, 1970

(1) *Housing List*

All applicants still remaining on the 1970 Housing List together with those applicants first applying during 1970, were invited to renew their application for inclusion on the 1971 Housing List.

| | | *Comparable figures* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1971 | 1969 | 1967 |
| Table 1a | | | |
| The total number invited to re-apply | 220 | 187 | 197 |
| Renewed Applications ... ... | 140 | 107 | 121 |
| Applications not renewed ... ... | 80 | 80 | 76 |
| New Applications received early 1971 | 20 | 25 | 13 |
| Total Number of Applicants on the new list ... ... ... ... | 160 | 132 | 134 |

Table 1b

*Analysis of Applications*

| Application by or for | 1971 | 1969 | 1967 |
|---|---|---|---|
| a) 2/3/4 Bedroom, General Needs | 95 | 63 | 68 |
| b) Engaged Couples (to be added to a) when married ... ... | 36 | 20 | 11 |
| c) Small accommodation and bungalows including old folks ... | 23 | 44 | 43 |
| d) Servicemen ... ... ... | 6 | 5 | 12 |
| | 160 | 132 | 134 |

Applications have been accepted from persons in the following categories :

1) Persons resident or working within the Borough.
2) Persons able to prove a reasonable period of residence within the Borough and classified as ex-residents.
3) Servicemen, providing that either they are stationed at R.A.F. Brampton or R.A.F. Wyton, or the serviceman or his wife originate from the Borough and the applicant is within 18 months of completion of service.

Applications are accepted from engaged couples; such applications are transferred to the general list when the couple are married.

(2) *Terminations, Allocations and Exchanges*

Table 2a

| *Terminations* | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|
| A—Borough Housing, Town Expansion | 29 | 20 | 22 |
| B—Borough Nominees ... ... ... | 10 | 9 | 7 |
| C—Key workers ... ... ... | 15 | 15 | 7 |
| D—G.L.C. Nominees ... ... ... | 104 | 99 | 96 |
| Total ... | 158 | 143 | 132 |

Table 2b

*Analysis of Termination*

| | A | B | C | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Death of tenant or Spouse ... ... | 5 | — | — | 1 |
| Bought locally ... ... ... ... | 15 | 6 | 11 | 29 |
| Moved to London area ... ... ... | — | — | — | 7 |
| Moved elsewhere ... ... ... ... | 7 | 3 | 3 | 29 |
| Emigrated ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | 9 |
| Not known ... ... ... ... | 3 | — | 1 | 30 |

Table 2c

| *Allocations* | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|
| A—Borough Housing, Town Expansion | 61 | 71 | 28 |
| B—Borough Nominee ... ... ... | 20 | 25 | 33 |
| C—Key worker ... ... ... ... | 29 | 24 | 18 |
| D—G.L.C. Nominee ... ... ... | 101 | 174 | 229 |
| Total ... | 211 | 294 | 308 |

Note : —The current number of tenancies occupied by service industry is 77.

(3) *Mutual Exchanges*

Exchanges of tenancies between the tenants of this Council and tenants from other districts.

| Table 3 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tenants exchanged with tenants in London ... ... ... ... | 19 | 9 | 19 |
| Tenants exchanged with tenants in neighbouring Local Authorities ... | 1 | 6 | 1 |
| Tenants exchanged with tenants Elsewhere ... ... ... ... ... | 16 | 7 | 4 |
| Applications withdrawn ... ... ... | 18 | 18 | 16 |
| Applications refused ... ... ... | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| Applications under consideration at 31st December, 1970 ... ... ... | 1 | 4 | 4 |

**Slum Clearance**

There were no Clearance Areas confirmed by the Minister during the year.

Four houses were dealt with as individual unfit houses and of these four, two were demolished.

Number of Families rehoused from unfit properties ... 3
Number of Persons rehoused from unfit properties ... 11
Number of Unfit Dwellings demolished ... ... 5

**Improvement Grants**

During the early part of the year the public continued to make enquiries regarding the new grants available for improvement of older property and it was not until the latter part of the year that applications were received for grants. It is hoped that the number of persons applying for a Grant will rise during the forthcoming year.

| | *Discretionary Grants.* | | *Standard Grants.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *Applications.* | *No. of Dwellings.* | *Applications.* |
| Applications received ... | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Applications approved ... | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Projects completed 1970... | 4 | 4 | 7 |

**Improvement Areas**

Preliminary surveys were completed and reported to the Council together with the suggested scheme prepared by the Planning Department, and a public meeting is to be held early in 1971 so that the Council can consider the feelings of the persons affected in the proposed area.

**Housing Act, 1969, Qualification Certificates**

Three applications for Qualification Certificates were received and in each case the owner was asked to carry out work to improve the property before the issuing of Certificates.

**Water Samples**

All piped supplies are provided by the Nene and Ouse Water Board. All dwellings are supplied direct.

Samples were taken at various consumer points during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Peterborough for Bacteriological examination.

*Samples Taken* 21 *Satisfactory Results* 19 *Unsatisfactory* 2

**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**

The Sewage Treatment Works continue to cope with the flows produced by the very careful attention on the part of the Manager and his staff. The acquisition of land for new extensions have been approved and are being finalised.

Cesspits were continued to be emptied by a Contractor at the Council's expense.

**Public Health Act, 1936**

It was necessary to serve Notices on the owners and occupiers of land at Kings Close Allotments for failing to comply with a Notice to abate the nuisance caused by animals and accumulations and deposits which were a nuisance. The owners and occupiers failed to comply with the Statutory Notice and it was necessary to apply to the Court for the making of a Nuisance Order. The Court found in favour of the Council and ordered the owners and occupiers to comply with the Notice within two months. The work to comply with the Nuisance Order was carried out within one month.

**Refuse Disposal and Collection**

The Borough Surveyor is responsible for refuse collection and disposal. A weekly collection is made to all houses in the district and is disposed of at Buckden refuse tip situated in the St. Neots Rural District.

The three weekly collections from food premises continues and has shown to be satisfactory. Two large supermarkets have provided large containers and these are removed by Contractors and has eased the situation for the Borough Surveyor.

**Rivers and Streams**

The river was again used by visitors for fishing, boating and swimming with no apparent ill effects to bathers.

**Swimming Pools**

There were no complaints received about conditions at the Council's Swimming Pool and the Pool continues to run satisfactorily. Two Schools have their own training pools, but these have not caused problems.

**Pest Control**

The Council employ a full-time operator and also have a member of the Maintenance Staff who has been trained and acts as a stand-by during the absence of the full-time operator. The Council take advantage of the refresher courses provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and both members of staff attend when a course is organised.

It is proposed to train a further member of staff so that in the event of sickness and holidays, rodent control will be continued in a satisfactory manner.

**Infestations**

The treatment of wasps is not carried out by the Council but advice is given where necessary.

Four premises were found to be infested with bed bugs and two houses were infested with fleas.

**Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960**

The following sites were licensed at the end of 1970 :—

1. Anchor Cottage — 15 Caravans and 20 tents/vans during the Summer.
2. Deep Meadow — 22 Caravans.
3. Knighton's — 7 Caravans.

There are also a number of individual sites licensed in addition to a number of vans on exempted sites.

It was again necessary to speak to a number of gypsies during the year and they were asked to move from the roadside to a more satisfactory site and this can only be provided when the County Council have decided where a permanent site for these travellers is to be sited.

**Clean Air Act**

There were two applications for prior approval. The Council continue to equip all new dwellings with appliances capable of burning smokeless fuel.

The Council do not operate any Smoke Controlled areas.

**Agricultural (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956**

This act is only implemented if visits are made to farms for some other purpose.

**Licensing Act, 1961**

There was one new premise referred to the Department. All licensed premises were inspected during the year.

**Pet Animals Act, 1951**

There are three premises registered for the sale of pets. The owner of one of the properties was successfully prosecuted for failing to comply with the Council's Licensing conditions and was fined a total of £20 and costs. The owner of the property has now carried out work of improvements and is satisfactory.

**Noise Abatement Act, 1960**

Two complaints were received during the year and were investigated, and it was considered that no action was necessary on either complaint.

During the summer months it was again necessary to warn Ice-cream salesmen for sounding chimes after 7 p.m.

**Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

One factory is registered under this Act.

### Shops Act, 1950

During the year it was necessary to take informal action against one shop for trading on six days. Again several enquiries were made from the larger stores regarding the six day trading, but no formal request was received.

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Routine visits are made to all food premises at regular intervals and it has not been necessary to take any action against any owner. It was necessary on one occasion to warn an employee for smoking.

The standard of food hygiene conditions continues to be high, but all shops have been warned to take special care in their stock rotation of perishable goods.

### Factories Act, 1961

For Summary of inspections see tables.

It was not necessary to take any formal action against any factory.

### Petroleum Acts and Regulations

There are 47 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum and/or petroleum mixture and 1 for calcium carbide. All the premises were visited during the year.

There were no problems during the year and two premises were closed and the tanks removed.

## INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

### (a) Ice Cream

There are no Ice Cream Manufacturers in the town. The total number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream is 49.

Regular inspections of all premises and mobile vehicles were made and it was necessary to warn two traders for not keeping their vans in a satisfactory manner.

18 Samples were purchased and tested under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations. These were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory who gave the following results :—

Grade 1 ... 16
Grade 2 ... 2

(b) **Slaughter Houses**

There are no slaughter houses operating in the Borough. Arrangements have been made for local butchers to use the St. Ives Abattoir for slaughtering.

(c) **Bakehouses**

There is only one bakehouse in the town and extensive alterations have been carried out and further improvements are to be made to the remainder of the premises.

(d) **Food Premises**

There is a small factory manufacturing meat pies and other cooked meat products. Regular visits are made to all food premises and there has been no cause for concern during the year.

(e) **Food Inspection**

There were four complaints investigated after complaints by the public.

(a) 2 decomposing chickens
(b) 1 sour sausage
(c) 1 liver sausage

It was not necessary to take any formal action against the firms concerned but all received warning letters.

(f) **Unfit Foods**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cooked Meat and Meat Products | | | 39 lbs. |
| Canned Meats | 3 cwt. | 1 qrt. | 12 lbs. |
| Fish | | | 92 lbs. |
| Fruit and Vegetables | 1 ton | 7 cwt. | 15 lbs. |
| Miscellaneous | | 1 cwt. | 19 lbs. |

Frozen Food to the value of £248 16s. 0d.

All food was offered for voluntary surrender by the retailers.

(g) **Containerisation**

The large warehouse receiving containers from Port Health Authorities has now moved out of the district and all notifications received from the Port Health Authorities were referred to St. Ives Rural District.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Bakehouses ... ... ... ... ... | 43 |
| Butchers' Shops ... ... ... ... | 117 |
| Cafes ... ... ... ... ... ... | 157 |
| Factories ... ... ... ... ... | 28 |
| Verminous Premises ... ... ... ... | 9 |
| Food Inspections ... ... ... ... | 243 |
| Fried Fish Shops ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Ice Cream Samples ... ... ... ... | 18 |
| Diseases ... ... ... ... ... | 28 |
| Making-up Premises ... ... ... ... | 113 |
| Market ... ... ... ... ... | 15 |
| Mobile Shops ... ... ... ... ... | 18 |
| Caravan Sites ... ... ... ... ... | 32 |
| Moveable Dwellings ... ... ... ... | 20 |
| Place of Public Entertainment ... ... | 4 |
| Licensed Premises ... ... ... ... | 32 |
| Housing Inspections ... ... ... ... | 118 |
| Petroleum Act ... ... ... ... ... | 48 |
| Improvement Grant ... ... ... ... | 79 |
| Complaints ... ... ... ... ... | 38 |
| Reinspections ... ... ... ... ... | 52 |
| O.S.R. ... ... ... ... ... ... | 253 |
| Water Samples ... ... ... ... | 21 |
| Pet Animal Act ... ... ... ... | 13 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... ... | 100 |

### Factories Act, 1961

| | No. on Register | Inspections | Notices | Prosecutions |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| (i) Factories in which section 1 2 3 4 & 6 are enforced by the Local Authority ... ... ... | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... | 83 | 26 | Nil | Nil |
| (iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ... ... | 8 | 2 | Nil | Nil |
| Cases in which defects were found | Found | Remedied | | |
| Section 7, Sanitary conveniences insufficient ... ... ... ... | Nil | Nil | | |

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Properties inspected as a result of notification ... | 159 |
| Number of Properties inspected by survey under the Act ... | 757 |
| Number of Properties inspected primarily for other purposes (approx.) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1928 |
| Number of Properties inspected infested with Rats ... ... | 328 |
| Number of Properties inspected infested with Mice ... ... | 52 |
| Number of Properties treated by Local Authority ... ... | 380 |

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

**Table A**

Registrations and General Inspections

| (1) Class of premises TOTALS | (2) Number of premises registered during the year | (3) Total number of registered premises at end of year | (4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year |
|---|---|---|---|
| Offices ... ... ... ... | 2 | 56 | 19 |
| Retail Shops ... ... ... | 2 | 55 | 12 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses ... | — | 5 | 1 |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... ... | — | 5 | 1 |
| Fuel storage depots ... ... | — | — | 33 |

**Table B** Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises = 253

**Table C**

Analysis of Persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

| (1) Class of workplace | (2) Number of persons employed | |
|---|---|---|
| | | Total |
| Offices ... ... ... ... | | 326 |
| Retail shops ... ... ... | | 407 |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses ... ... ... ... | | 65 |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... ... | | 64 |
| Fuel storage depots ... ... | | 8 |
| Total ... ... ... ... | | 870 |
| Total Males ... ... ... | | 377 |
| Total Females ... ... ... | | 493 |

**Table D**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Exemptions : | Part i | Space | = Nil |
| | Part ii | Temperature | = Nil |
| | Part iii | Sanitary Conveniences | = Nil |
| | Part iv | Washing Facilities | = Nil |

**Table E**

Prosecutions Nil

**Table F**

No. of inspectors appointed under section 52 (1) of the Act = 2

**O.S.R. 11**

Statistics of Accidents reported to enforcing Authority : —

1st Quarter — 2
2nd Quarter — 3
3rd Quarter — None
4th Quarter — 1

* * * *

## GENERAL

Public Health work has progressed satisfactorily during the year and again lectures have been given to schools and other organisations. As a result of the National publicity campaign, many enquiries have been received from owner occupiers for grants under the Housing Act 1969 and towards the end of the year several applications for Improvement Grants were received.

The proposed Hartford Road Improvement Area has been surveyed and it is expected that the first formal Improvement Area will be declared in the near future.

The standard of hygiene in food premises has remained satisfactory although there has been a general lack of interest by both management and employees in any formal training in food hygiene. The co-operation of all shopkeepers with the department has been satisfactory and it has not been found necessary to recommend any formal proceedings against a food trader.

A running down of the Town Expansion programme together with the general reduction in national employment statistics has affected the local housing situation. Throughout the year there have been a number of vacant dwellings awaiting Greater London Council nominees. The number of G.L.C. nominees was not quite equal to the number of ex-G.L.C. nominees vacating their Council houses. The local list has however benefited by the Borough accepting more than its quota of expansion houses at this time.

I wish to thank all members of my Department and the Medical Officer of Health for all their help in the past 12 months.

C. W. PARCELL,
*Chief Public Health Inspector.*